



# Sydney Harbour Combined Clubs Winter Series 2026

## Sailing Instructions

The race committee referred to in the notice of race and these sailing instructions shall consist of one representative from each participating club.

The notation (NP) in a rule means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1(a). (DP) denotes a rule for which the penalty is at the discretion of the protest committee.

### 1 RULES

- 1.1 The event is governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing and the Special Regulations of Australian Sailing applicable to Category 7 races.
- 1.2 Competitors are reminded that boats racing are not in any way excused from compliance with IRPCAS and NSW Maritime Safety Regulations with respect to vessels not racing and compliance with directions of Port Authorities or officers of NSW Roads and Maritime Services.

### 2 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 1000 hours on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 1800 hours on the day before it will take effect.

### 3 COMMUNICATION WITH COMPETITORS

- 3.1 Notices to competitors, including a list of entries and race documents will be posted on the official [Online Notice Board \(ONB\)](#). The ONB can also be located by clicking on the Sydney Harbour combined clubs winter series (SHCCWS) entries and results tab from any of the participating club's website.
- 3.2 The race office shall be the Race or Sailing Office of any of the participating clubs as follows:  
RANSA email: [office@ransa.com.au](mailto:office@ransa.com.au) or telephone: (02) 9363 9939  
RSYS email: [sailing@rsys.com.au](mailto:sailing@rsys.com.au) or telephone: (02) 9017 0152  
RPEYC email: [secretary@rpeyc.com.au](mailto:secretary@rpeyc.com.au) or telephone (02) 9363 5809
- 3.3 On the water, the race committee intends to monitor and communicate with competitors on VHF radio channel 73.
- 3.4 (DP) While racing, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

### 4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed at RANSA, RPEYC and RSYS.
- 4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 30 minutes' in Race Signals AP.

## 5 SCHEDULE OF RACES

5.1 The following races are scheduled:

Date	Full Series	Half Series	Host Club
Sat 2 May	Race 1	Race 1	RSYS
Sat 9 May	Race 2		RANSA
Sat 16 May	Race 3	Race 2	RPEYC
Sat 23 May	Race 4		RSYS
Sat 30 May	Race 5	Race 3	RANSA
Sat 6 June	Long weekend - no racing		
Sat 13 June	Race 6		RPEYC
Sat 20 June	Race 7	Race 4	RSYS
Sat 27 June	Race 8		RANSA
Sat 4 July	Race 9	Race 5	RPEYC
Sat 11 July	Race 10		RSYS
Sat 18 July	Race 11		RANSA
Sat 25 July	Race 12	Race 6	RPEYC

5.2 The scheduled time of the warning signal for each division and the respective class flags are as follows:

Scheduled Time	Division	Flag Displayed
1225 hrs	Division 1	Q
1230 hrs	Division 2	C
1235 hrs	Non-spinnaker Division 1	J

5.3 Divisions may be deleted or combined at the discretion of the race committee depending on the number of entries received.

## 6 RACING AREA

6.1 Racing shall be conducted on Sydney Harbour.

## 7 COURSES

7.1 Courses are described in Appendix 1.

7.2 Courses will be signalled by numeral pennant.

## 8 MARKS

8.1 Marks are described in Appendix 1.

## 9 OBSTRUCTIONS

9.1 Cardinal Marks – boats shall not sail within the areas bounded by Cardinal Marks. These areas are obstructions.

9.2 Moorings – except for Naval moorings, boats shall not sail within mooring areas.

9.3 Shark Island – boats shall not sail between the AS Shark Island Mark (SIM) and the cardinal mark south of Shark Island or between Shark Island and the Shark Island Light (north of Shark Island). These areas are obstructions.

9.4 Garden Island and Chowder Bay – boats shall not sail within the yellow markers in the vicinity of Garden Island or near the naval wharf in Chowder Bay. These areas are obstructions.

## 10 THE START

10.1 The starting line is between a staff displaying an orange flag on the race committee vessel at the starboard end and the course side of the port end starting mark.

10.2 (DP) Boats intending to race shall report to the race officials aboard the race committee vessel before the start and receive acknowledgement. Failure to observe this requirement may result in a boat being scored DNC. This changes RRS A5.1.

10.3 The race committee may advise competitors of recalls on VHF 73. Failure to make a broadcast or to time it accurately will not be grounds for a request for redress. This changes RRS 61.4 (a) (1).

## **11 THE FINISH**

- 11.1 The finishing line is between a staff displaying a blue flag on the race committee vessel at the starboard end and the course side of the port end finishing mark.
- 11.2 (DP) Boats retiring from a race shall notify the race committee vessel via VHF 73 as soon as practicable and receive acknowledgement. Failure to observe this requirement may result in a boat being scored DNC. This changes RRS A5.1.

## **12 PENALTY SYSTEM**

- 12.1 In addition to the penalties at the time of the incident in accordance with RRS 44.1 and 44.2, boats may also take a 30% Post Race Penalty in accordance with RRS Appendix T by notifying the race or sailing office.
- 12.2 RRS Appendix T Arbitration may be applied by the protest committee. Arbitration may take place promptly after racing or at some other time as advised to the parties. Arbitration may take place by email, telephone or other electronic means.

## **13 TIME LIMITS**

- 13.1 The race time limit is 1630 hours.
- 13.2 Boats that have started and have not retired or finished before the race time limit shall be scored DNF. This changes RRS 35.

## **14. SCORING**

- 14.1 In addition to the scoring system and amendments detailed in clause 11 of the notice of race, the discard for the Half Series will cut in once five races are completed. The first discard for the Full Series will cut in once five races are completed and the second discard will cut in once ten races are completed.
- 14.2 A minimum of three completed races will constitute a series in the Half Series and six completed races in the Full Series.

## **15 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS**

- 15.1 The protest time limit is 1000 hours on the first working day after the race.
- 15.2 Protests or requests for redress may be delivered to any one of the race offices, which will pass them on to the relevant club to arrange the hearing.
- 15.3 Hearing request forms are available here: [Select link](#) or from the race or sailing offices.
- 15.4 Protests will be heard at the clubhouse of the duty or conducting club on the following Wednesday unless otherwise decided by the Combined Clubs' Race Committee. The hearing time will be advised to the parties involved.

## **16 SAFETY REGULATIONS**

- 16.1 (NP) (DP) Boats shall comply with the following with regard to commercial shipping. Failure to comply with these requirements may result in a penalty of DNE. This changes RRS 61.4 (a) (1).  
(a) Boats shall not pass between the bow of any seagoing ship and a dedicated Port Authority escort vessel whilst on escort duty and within 500 metres from the bow and 30 metres from the side or stern of the seagoing ship  
(b) Boats shall maintain a minimum distance of 200 metres from the bow and 30 metres from the sides or stern of any ferry displaying an orange diamond.
- 16.2 (NP) (DP) A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity.
- 16.3 (NP) In accordance with NSW Roads and Maritime Services regulations, boats shall report any incident involving Injury or significant damage likely to cost more than \$5000 to the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity.

## **17 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS**

- 17.1 A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the rules.

## **18 RACE COMMITTEE VESSEL**

- 18.1 The race committee vessel will be identified by the applicable club burgee.

**APPENDIX 1 – COURSES**

<b>COURSE 1 – NORTH and NORTHEAST</b>									
Class/Fleet	Start Area							Finish Area	Length (nm)
Division 1	Point Piper	LB	N2	BB	SIM	N2		Athol Bay	11
Division 2	Point Piper	NP	N2	NP	SIM	N2		Athol Bay	8
Non-spin Div 1	Point Piper	NP	N2	NP	SIM	N2		Athol Bay	8
<b>COURSE 2 – WEST and NORTHWEST</b>									
Class/Fleet	Start Area							Finish Area	Length (nm)
Division 1	Shark Island	LM1	RB	N2	RB	LM1	SIM	Robertson Pt	12
Division 2	Shark Island	N2	PP	N2	PP	LM1	SIM	Robertson Pt	9
Non-spin Div 1	Shark Island	N3	PP	N2	PP	LM1	SIM	Robertson Pt	8
<b>COURSE 3 – EAST and SOUTHEAST</b>									
Class/Fleet	Start Area							Finish Area	Length (nm)
Division 1	Robertson Pt	RB	LM1	SIM	LM1	SIM	LM1	Vicinity of N2	11
Division 2	Robertson Pt	N2	LM1	N2	LM1	SIM	LM1	Vicinity of N2	8
Non-spin Div 1	Robertson Pt	N2	LM1	N2	LM1	SIM	LM1	Vicinity of N2	8
<b>COURSE 4 – SOUTH &amp; SOUTHWEST</b>									
Class/Fleet	Start Area							Finish Area	Length (nm)
Division 1	Athol Bay	LM2(p)	OB	SIM	OB	SIM		Vicinity of N2	10
Division 2	Athol Bay	LM2(p)	CBS	SIM	OB	SIM		Vicinity of N2	8
Non-spin Div 1	Athol Bay	LM2(p)	CBS	SIM	OB	SIM		Vicinity of N2	8

**Mark Descriptions**

The following are descriptions of marks and buoys.

- BB - Beashel Mark - AS buoy south-west of Sow and Pigs.
- CBS - Chowder Bay South Mark - AS buoy off the southern shore of Chowder Bay (the southernmost buoy of the two AS buoys in Chowder Bay).
- LB - Lady Bay Mark - AS buoy off the northern end of Lady Bay.
- LM1 - Laid Mark – an orange inflatable buoy marked with RANSA, RPEYC or RSYS located south-west of Robertson Point.
- LM2 - Laid Mark – an orange inflatable buoy marked with RANSA, RPEYC or RSYS located approximately 200m north-west of Clarke Island.
- NP - Nielsen Park Mark - AS buoy approx. 100m south-west of the red navigation pile off Nielsen Park.
- N2 - Naval Buoy No. 2 - Approximately 250m north-west of Clarke Island.
- N3 - Naval Buoy No. 3 - Approximately 200m North of Clarke Island.
- OB - Obelisk Bay Mark - AS buoy east of Obelisk Beach.
- PP - Point Piper Mark - AS buoy north of Point Piper
- RB - Rose Bay East Mark - AS buoy in Rose Bay approximately 200m off the eastern shore of Rose Bay in front of the convent.
- SIM - Shark Island Mark - AS buoy approx. 30m south-east of the south cardinal mark off Shark Island (leave Shark Island to starboard).
- TB - Taylors Bay Mark - AS buoy in Taylors Bay.
- Starting Mark - an orange inflatable buoy marked with RPEYC, RANSA or RSYS.
- Finishing Mark - an orange inflatable buoy marked with RPEYC, RANSA or RSYS.

